

EXHIBIT 1

DATE 1-22-07

HB 325

January 17, 2007

Rep. Ernie Dutton 81

Dear Members of House Business and Labor Committee,

Ernie Dutton asked that I clarify my proposed H.B. #325 that will allow employers to only process an electronic payroll if they choose. State Law prohibits that only option today and should an employee demand a live paycheck, an employer is obligated to do so.

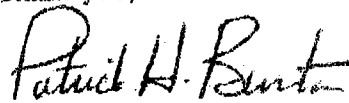
My issue and all business owners' issue should be **payroll check fraud**. It is a huge problem nationally due to the advancements in technology. Namely, the quality of today's scanners and color printers have caused deviant employees or lost paychecks to become duplicated and cashed, leaving the employer with the losses.

My solution is "direct deposit" (90% of employees prefer this method). It is secure for the employer and extremely convenient for the employee. In most cases it is in the employees personal bank account the afternoon before payday, it alleviates sitting in long lines at drive-up banks on Friday afternoons thus improving their quality of life.

At SYSCO Food Services of Montana, we also offer employees the option of a comp-card, at no charge to them. We simply deposit their earnings on a visa debit card. They can then make purchases, pay bills, withdraw cash all with the security and convenience of a payroll debit comp card. Cash can be obtained from their bank ATM with no transaction fees. Almost 10% of our 500 employees have chosen this method of getting paid. The ones that I have interviewed love the security and convenience. They can also call an 800# on the back of the card to access their balance minutes after any transaction or they can manage their balance on-line.

In closing, it saddens me when employees chose to use a check cashing service, paying 3% of the face value of their check to get cash. ATM's on the other hand are free if you use the machine where you bank or at the very least, the national average in malls, convenience stores and other high traffic areas charge 1.6%. So, please consider changing this statute for employers and employees alike. Technology demands it.

Thank you,



Patrick H. Burton
President & CEO
SYSCO Food Services of Montana

P.S. I surveyed Archie Cochran Motors in Billings and they offer only direct deposit.

P.S. I surveyed the Business Manager at Montana State University Billings and he said they offer both but 90% of employees chose direct deposit.

P.S. I researched what consumers pay to obtain cash from an ATM and the average surcharge is \$1.60, no matter the amount withdrawn.